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Untersuchungen über den galvanischen Lichtreflex. BUMKE. *Zeitschrift für Psychologie und Physiologie der Sinnesorgane.* 1904, Bd. 36, S. 294–299.

Weak galvanic currents of 1/50 of a millampère, passing through the eye-ball, have long been known to produce a faint sensation of light: and the writer has previously shown that slightly stronger currents have in addition a pupillomotor effect. In order to study this effect the author applies one electrode to the temple (or for the consensual reaction directly over the eye), the other to the sternum or the palm of the hand; and observes the pupil through the Zehender-Westien binocular magnifier. There were examined 29 healthy and 87 unhealthy persons. On the average a current of 2.4 milliampères on closure at the anode will cause both pupils to contract 1 to 2 mm. (in diameter?). The strength needed for this varies with the individual from 0.7 to 5.0 milliampères. The contraction is like that caused by a faint light stimulus, and like this is followed by a slight expansion. Breaking the current at the cathode is the next most efficient stimulus after making it at the anode. The sensation of light appears to precede the pupillary reflex. In some individuals the consensual reaction is slightly later than the direct, but in rather more individuals no such difference could be detected. Fatigue lowers the threshold for the electrically stimulated light sensation and raises that for the pupillary reflex: "that is, an individual who to-day has the sensation from a current of 0.1 and the iris reflex from one of 0.2 milliampère, will, after going without sleep for a night, perceive light from a current of 0.08 and give the pupillomotor reflex only for one of 3.2 milliampères." The reason for this is not clear. "We must be contented to record that the same factors which *impair* the *subcortical* paths of conduction, are in same way able to *enhance* the irritability of the *cortical centers*."

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JOURNALS AND NEW BOOKS

THE MONIST. January, 1905. Vol. XV., No. 1. *The Principles of Mathematical Physics* (pp. 1–24): HENRI POINCARÉ. – The author mentions six fundamental postulates on which physical science is based. They are: (1) Conservation of energy; (2) Degradation of energy; (3) Equality of action and reaction; (4) Relativity—making impossible the detection of absolute motion; (5) Conservation of mass; (6) Least action. The body of the article consists in a criticism of these postulates, with a view to the possibility of their revision, in the light of recent scientific discoveries. *Meaning of the Epithet Nazorean (Nazarene)* (pp. 25–45): WILLIAM BENJAMIN SMITH. – The author cites numerous passages to prove that the epithet Nazarene is not derived from a supposed village called Nazareth, the existence of which is very doubtful, but from the Old-Semitic stem meaning 'preserve.' *The Passing of Scientific Materialism*